

## House Resolution No. 764

**Whereas**, the Honorable Jo Ann Emerson of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, has been nominated to receive the prestigious DeVerne Lee Calloway Award, a tremendous accolade given annually by the Women Legislators of Missouri in honor of Missouri's first African-American woman state representative; and

**Whereas**, the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award is presented to a Missouri woman who, through her commitment and determination, has made major contributions to equality and social justice by furthering legislation concerning equal opportunities for all Missourians in the areas of education, housing, employment, etc.; and

**Whereas**, the first woman to be elected to the United States House of Representatives by Missouri's Eighth Congressional District and the first Republican woman ever elected to Congress from the state of Missouri, Representative Emerson was elected to serve both the remainder of her late husband Bill Emerson's term in the 104th Congress and her first full term in the 105th Congress on November 5, 1996; and

**Whereas**, a tireless advocate for improving access to rural health care who has championed prescription drug and health care legislation that is focused on leveling the inequalities which currently exist in rural America, Representative Emerson serves on the House Appropriations Committee, where she sits on three subcommittees: Agriculture; Homeland Security; and Energy and Water Development; and

**Whereas**, a 1972 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, Representative Emerson pursued an active career in public affairs and grassroots communications and previously served as the Senior Vice President of Public Affairs for the American Insurance Association, Director of State Relations and Grassroots Programs for the small-business oriented National Restaurant Association, and Deputy Communications Director for the National Republican Congressional Committee; and

**Whereas**, an Honorary and Life Trustee of Westminster College in Fulton and founding member of the Bipartisan Congressional Retreat who serves as chairman of the Board of Directors for the Congressional Hunger Center, Representative Emerson is the proud wife of Ron Gladney; mother of Victoria and Katharine Emerson; stepmother of Elizabeth Emerson Leger, Abigail Emerson Gilhooley, and Alison, Jessica, Stephanie, and Sam Gladney; and grandmother of Margaret Browning Gilhooley and Curt William Leger:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Representative Emerson upon her well-deserved nomination for the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Honorable Jo Ann Emerson.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Otto Bean, Jr.  
District No. 163

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Marilyn Ruestman  
District No. 131

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of

Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 764, adopted March 10, 2003.

---

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker